## STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's agricultural producers work tirelessly to provide an abundance of high-quality grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy products, livestock, and more on 64,793 farms, consistently and proudly placing our state among the world's top agricultural exporters and contributing \$104.8 billion annually to our state economy; and

WHEREAS; even during times of economic instability, international trade uncertainty, difficult weather, and, now, a global pandemic, Wisconsin farmers and agribusinesses have never stopped working to feed their communities, our state, our nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that folks who work on farms face a higher risk of workplace fatality than in many other industries, with Wisconsin seeing 34 farm fatalities in 2018 alone; and

WHEREAS; we also recognize that adults and youth who work on farms often face unique occupational health problems and high levels of stress that can lead to short or long-term physical and mental health conditions; disability, and diseases, all of which require specialized medical knowledge and attention from health professionals who live and work in rural settings and among members of the farming community; and

WHEREAS; farms can be made safer through agricultural leadership and education for farmers, agricultural workers, and family members about workplace safety, along with a commitment by farm operators to identify and eliminate hazards, the improved design of farm machinery, and the engagement of the folks in our farming communities who provide support, technical services, healthcare, and supplies; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the State Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection in reminding all Wisconsinites of the vital importance of the safety and health of the farmers, ranchers, and workers who serve our state and our nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 20 – 26, 2020, as

## NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

By Bovernor:

Secretary of State

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2020.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR